

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. NOV. 16 PAPERS BANNER (A) BEGINNING OF PRISONER EXCHANGE OPERATION; (B) TRANSFER OF CAIRO-SUEZ CHECKPOINTS TO U.N. FORCES; (C) MILITARY ACTION ON GOLAN FRONT; (D) QADHAFI'S TELEGRAM TO SADAT. EDITORIAL COMMENT, HOWEVER, CONCENTRATES ON INTER-ARAB RELATIONS, AND ON COMING ARAB SUMMIT.

2. ON INTER-ARAB RELATIONS, LEADING INDEPENDENT ARABIC AN-NAHAR WRITES: "WEIGHT OF EGYPT AND ITS PRESIDENT, NOT TO MENTION SYRIA AND ITS PRESIDENT, GREATER IN INTERNATIONAL AND ARAB BLANCE THAN LIBYAN PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN. BUT THIS CAMPAIGN COULD INTERACT WITH NUMEROUS QUARTERS IN EGYPT AND SYRIA AND OUTSIDE THEM, ESPECIALLY IN MILITARY AND STUDENT QUARTERS. IF ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND THEN PEACE CONFERENCE (AND BEFORE THEM SUBJECT OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO OCT. 22 LINES) ARE TRIPPED UP, QADHAFI'S CAMPAIGN, WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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HE WILL BE REPLENISHING CONTINUOUSLY, WILL BE TRANSFORMED

INTO INTERNAL 'LIBERATION WAR', TO USE HIS TERM.... IF ISRAEL TAKES HARD LINE AND REFUSES -- AND AMERICA LETS IT DO THIS -- QADHAFI'S TELEGRAM TO SADAT WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO LATEST BROADSIDE IN RECENT HISTORY OF ARAB, AS WELL AS BILL OF CHARGES FOR POLITICAL VERDICT UNPRECEDENTED IN THIS FIELD EXCEPT FOR A FEW OF ABDEL NASSER'S SPEECHES."

3. ON COMING ARAB SUMMIT, INDEPENDENT FRENCH AS-SAFA WRITES

"DOESN'T COMING ARAB 'SUMMIT' RUN RISK OF BEING HARDER TEST FOR SADAT THAN CROSSING OF SUEZ CANAL...? ONLY WORKING HYPOTHESIS CALLED FOR IN ALGIERS DELIBERATION IS THAT OF DEFINING PROCESSES AND MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTATION OF S.C. RESOLUTION 242, OF ESTABLISHING PEACE, AND OF FORMS OF ASSISTANCE BY RAB WORLD TO STATES THAT WILL BE ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATIONS: EGYPT, SYRIA, AND JORDAN.... IF THERE WERE DEPARTURE FROM FRAMEWORK OF THIS RESOLUTION, PEACE CONFERENCE WOULD RUN RISK OF GETTING BOGGED DOWN MUCH MORE CERTAINLY THAN IF IT WERE MAINTAINED."

4. ON CEASE-FIRE IMPLEMENTATION AND ARAB SUMMIT, LEADING INDEPENDENT FRENCH L'ORIENT-LE JOUR WRITES: "NEXT ROUND IS OVER CONTROVERSIAL OCT. 22 LINES WHICH MAKE MRS. MEIR ROAR EVERY TIME MR. KINNINGER MENTIONS THEIR EXISTENCE. THIS IS MAJOR OBSTACLE ONLY IN APPEARANCE, BECAUSE, INSTEAD OF OVERCOMING IT, PEOPLE ARE TALKING NOW OF CIRCUMVENTING IT AT LESS COST. IN FACT, IF ONE BELIEVES AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC, THESE LINES NO LONGER INTEREST EGYPT, AND FOR GOOD REASON: IT IS MUCH FURTHER THAN OCT. 22 THAN ISRAEL MUST PULL BACK IN FRAMEWORK OF 'DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES' MENT TO PRECEDE GENEVA. DON'T LOOK FOR GOOD WILL -- STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES DICTATE THIS PULLBACK.... THIS FIRST ISRAELI RETREAT WOULD PERMIT EGYPT TO PRODUCE TANGIBLE PROOF OF AMERICAN GOOD FAITH BEFORE A SKEPTICAL SUMMIT."

5. PRO-CAIRO AL-ANWAR MAKES LIGHT OF MRS. MEIR'S RECENT KNESSET STATEMENT: "ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE TO SAY NO, TO BE DEFIANT, TO BE OBSTINATE, UNTIL IT WITHDRAWS -- INDEED, WHILE IT WITHDRAWLS -- TO BEHIND 1967 BORDERS. THIS IS UNCLASSIFIED

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BECAUSE GOLDA MEIR KNOWS, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, DEGREE TO WHICH SHE CAN CHALLENGE WASHINGTON AND OPPOSE WORLD. 'DISPLEASURE' OVER KISSINGER'S STATEMENT OR REJECTION OF ANY IMPOSED SOLUTION THAT SHE FLAUNTS FROM TIME TO TIME BEFORE KNESSET ARE ONLY SHOWS OF STRENGTH, OR POSTPONEMENT OF HOUR OF RECOGNING, OR FOR LOCAL ELECTORAL CONSUMPTION." BUFFUM

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